



A dedication ceremony celebrated the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission's new ultraviolet Tesla Water Treatment Facility where the name of the game was ACWA members taking the lead in investing in water infrastructure. Cutting the ribbon are Assembly Speaker Pro Tempore Fiona Ma (D-San Francisco) and SFPUC General Manager Ed Harrington.

Photo credit: Katherine DuTiel, SFPUC Photo Archives

California's Largest Ultraviolet Water Treatment Facility Brings in Jobs, Beats Regulatory Deadline – All Within Budget

ACWA Members Encouraged to Build 'Field of Dreams' Infrastructure Projects

First and foremost, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission's new state-of-the-art water treatment facility is about public health and safety for the 2.5 million customers who receive water from Hetch Hetchy Regional Water System.

With a capacity of 315 million gallons of water per day, the Tesla Water Treatment Facility, dedicated on July 19, is the largest ultraviolet (UV) facility in California and third largest in North America.

The facility is High Silver LEED certified and beat by nine months a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regulatory deadline requiring a second disinfectant for unfiltered drinking water systems.

Finally, the plant created \$4.4 million in craft wages for workers, and the \$114 million project came in within budget.

Assembly Speaker Pro Tempore Fiona Ma (D-San Francisco), SFPUC General Manager

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ACWA Invites Member Suggestions for Legislative Proposals in Second Year of Session

If ACWA member agencies have an idea for a legislative proposal for the second year of the 2011-'12 Legislative Session, now is the time to get it ready.

If your agency would like to submit a proposal, please complete the legislative proposal

form and submit the required information to ACWA by the Sept. 9 deadline to be considered for this legislative session.

On July 18, ACWA sent via email a package with a request for legislative proposals to

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(Left) City of San Diego welcomes visitors to tour its Advanced Water Purification Facility through summer 2012. (Right) Located in northern San Diego, the facility is a small-scale, state-of-the-art water purification facility that purifies one million gallons of recycled water every day to a level similar to distilled water quality. If given the green light to go full-scale, the purified water would blend with the city's imported supplies at San Vicente Reservoir and would become part of its drinking water supply.

City of San Diego Speculates on Future of New Source of Local Water

Public Invited to Tour Water Purification Demonstration Project

The City of San Diego opened the doors this summer to a facility that is testing whether it could provide a new local source of water for San Diego.

Located in northern San Diego, the Advanced Water Purification Facility is a small-scale, state-of-the-art water purification facility that purifies one million gallons of recycled water every day to a level similar to distilled water quality.

The facility is one component of the city's Water Purification Demonstration Project, which is examining the safety and cost of purifying recycled water. If the project is approved to go full-scale, the purified water would blend with the city's imported supplies at San Vicente Reservoir and would become part of its drinking water supply.

As another component of the demonstration project, the city is studying San Vicente Reservoir and the potential effects of adding purified water to it.

During the yearlong test phase, purified water will not be sent to San Vicente Reservoir or the city's drinking water system. Instead, the purified water will be added to the city's recycled water system.

"Our city has been both creative and aggressive in trying to diversify our water supply," said San Diego Mayor Jerry Sanders. "The less we rely on importing water from outside San Diego County, the more we control our own destiny. A locally produced supply of water could be an important option for us."

All wastewater in San Diego undergoes treatment to remove harmful contaminants, making it safe enough to be discharged into the ocean. Some wastewater is diverted to the City's recycled water facilities, where it is further treated and then used for irrigation and industrial purposes. A portion of the recycled water produced at the North City Water Reclamation Plant will be sent to the Advanced Water Purification Facility.

The data from the demonstration project will be thoroughly examined, and the results will determine the safety and cost of a full-scale water purification and reservoir augmentation project. After the test phase is complete, the city council and mayor will decide whether to implement a full-scale project.

"This demonstration project will provide the answers San Diego needs before taking the next step with purified water," said Sanders. "We owe it to our citizens to see if we can come up with an alternative source of local, safe and relatively inexpensive drinking water."

Visitors are welcome to tour the Advanced Water Purification Facility through summer 2012. To register for a tour, visit www.purewatersd.org/tours.shtml. — *Marsi A. Steirer, Water Purification Demonstration Project Director, City of San Diego, Public Utilities Department* ■■■

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later this year, the program is advancing dozens of high-priority projects ranging from new groundwater wells to pipelines to water treatment plants and watershed protection.

"RWA is a model for successful regional collaboration and local water resources development around the state," said ACWA Executive Director Timothy Quinn. "Partnerships such as those

forged through RWA are widely seen as the future of California water."

RWA's website address is rwah2o.org.

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